



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 3 Aug 2000 2000.

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date of Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) Paul A. Price and Julia S. Johansen

Assignee: The Regents of the University of California

Title: ASSAY FOR YKL-40 AS A MARKER FOR DEGRADATION OF MAMMALIAN CONNECTIVE TISSUE MATRICIES

Serial No.: 09/215,077

Filing Date: December 18, 1998

Examiner: Bao-Thuy Nguyen

Art Unit: 1641

Docket No.: M-8954-2US

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 3 February 2000, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks. A change in correspondence address and a petition for a three month extension of time is enclosed. For the convenience of the Examiner, a list of the pending claims is attached as Appendix I.

In the Specification.

After the abstract, please delete the sequence listing pages 1-6 and substitute therefore the enclosed sequence listing pages 1-4.

In the Claims.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Once amended) A method of [identifying the presence of] screening for a disease state associated with cirrhosis of the liver in a mammal, said method comprising measuring the level of YKL-40 in a biological sample of the mammal and comparing the level to that of a normal, healthy mammal, wherein a statistically significant difference indicates the presence of said [cirrhosis] disease state.

76
MB
09/14/00

RECEIVED
AUG 22 2000

TEC. CENTER 1600/2300

a²